



Piraeus bound, the City of York is one of four former regular visitors to Hull which have been sold to a Greek buyer. She was the last of the four sister vessels to call at Hull after the Ellerman Lines decision to withdraw them from their South African service.

meeting of the Hull Fishing Vessel Owners' Association.

## Ships sold

FOUR handsome ships which traded to Hull for many years have been sold by Ellerman Lines to a Greek buyer for a total in the region of £1,200,000.

The four—City of Port Elizabeth, City of Durban, City of York and City of Exeter—have been laid up since their withdrawal earlier this year from the South African service. It was in this service that the ships, built between 1952 and 1954, became so well known in Hull. Each carrying 107 passengers in addition to cargo, the four are all about 11,400 tons deadweight and berthed regularly in King George Dock.

Passengers embarked at London before, because of a massive rise in operating costs, Ellerman and Bucknall diverted the northbound sailings to make Hull the first port of call



in the United Kingdom. First ship to arrive in Hull under the re-routing was the City of Durham, which docked here on February 15, and the last to arrive in the service was the City of York.

The four ships will be the first passenger vessels owned by their buyer, M. A. Karageorgis. First of the four to be delivered to Piraeus will be the City of Port Elizabeth, which arrives there shortly.

other East Coast fishing ports are glad to see an old friend in the North Sea.

The old acquaintance is the Norwegian weather and rescue ship Famita, manned by five lifeboatmen. During the next six months she will remain on station and broadcast bilingual hourly weather reports which are of great value to trawlers and other ships of all nationalities.

Each year the 308-ton motor trawler is chartered from her owner by the Norwegian lifeboat service at a cost of about £35,000 shared by the Norwegian, Swedish, Danish and West German governments. But the Famita, equipped with sophisticated weather forecasting gear, will help any ship of any flag.

British fishermen who have made use of her weather reports say that Britain should have a similar near-water watchdog.

The hourly bulletins enable ships to run for shelter if coming weather indicates this to be the wisest course. And to help those in trouble the Famita carries portable pump-inb equipment and towing gear.

## Fast work

HUSTLING drivers from Hull have completed in under three weeks a job in Hong Kong which was estimated to take two months.

They sealed a tube 360ft. long and 25ft. in diameter which sank in typhoon Rose.

The 26,000-ton tube will become a trans-harbour tunnel when it is sunk in the right position — but it went down prematurely in the typhoon